

MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 56

Frankfort • Searsport • Stockton Springs

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

February 27, 2007 – 6:30 P.M.

Central Office - Searsport

Present: Nedra Bellows Bonnie-Jean Brooks Tom Calderwood
James Cunningham Robert Danks Michael Hamilton
Veronica Magnan Twyler Webster

Absent: Harold Grove (ex.), Christopher Krause (ex.)

Visitors: 15

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** Chairperson Bob Danks called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

2. **ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA.** The following adjustments were made to the agenda: Presentations: Add A. Social Studies Curriculum. Current A becomes B. 7. Committee Reports: Eliminate Finance Committee (did not meet) and Policy Committee (did not meet). 9. New Business: Delete A, the district audit. Will be on the March agenda. Add a new H: Consideration of approval of a field trip to Portland on March 10, 2007 by members of the Sister School Project. Current I becomes J, current J becomes K. 10. Executive Session: Add 1. Resignation of officials/appointees/employees pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (A).

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Mike Hamilton to approve the February 13, 2007 Board minutes as presented.

VOTE: 6-0-2 (Danks, Hamilton)

4. **PRESENTATIONS.**

A. The superintendent introduced the Social Studies Curriculum Committee and turned the presentation over to Charlene Farris, Leanne Groening, Gail Anthonis, and Gregg Palmer. Charlene gave the overview of the K-5 curriculum and the importance of learning about their government and what it means to be an American. Gail shared the middle school curriculum from the Middle Ages, Maine history, ancient history, religions, world history, U.S. government, economics, and the consumer. Leanne shared the high school view, and what changes have been made. Grade 10 is taught thematically. There are some requirements that were not in the past curriculum but are now: personal economics and banking, and the U.S. government. In order to meet the Maine Learning Results, students need to take social studies in the 12th grade. Two electives, sociology and psychology, will be coming at a later time.

The superintendent shared that the Board of Directors needed to approve the curriculum, a textbook, and the new Grade 12 requirement. Questions and discussion followed.

Various Board members and the superintendent complimented the committee for their work. The superintendent presented Charlene Farris with her very own copy of A Journey Through Maine.

- B. CSR Grant – Brian Corrigan reviewed the five key components of their grant:
- Learning environment – established their own norms, positive attitude, emphasis on learning, professional learning communities, leadership teams.
 - Literacy – worked with Mary Girard with a focus on comprehension.
 - Communications – with a focus on learning.
 - Student showcase – art, student portfolios, student-led conferences on May 3.
 - Excellence – MEA, DRA, NWEA (students will use for academic goals for themselves), movement to standards.

Because of funding changes, the Middle School will receive only \$22,000 rather than the original \$50,000 and it must be spent by November 2007. They have a list of goals they wish to continue pursuing. Discussion and questions followed.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.**

Donna Phillips mentioned that the Middle School website is very informative.

Nedra Bellows said that the Penobscot Marine Museum is looking for community involvement. They are offering a Youth Photography Contest. The museum wants to be more of a resource.

6. **REPORT FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT.**

The superintendent gave an update on Harold Grove's health. He did not have a heart attack. They do not know exactly what it was, but they say his heart is better than ever.

If the trip to England is approved by the Board of Directors, Kristin, Harold's granddaughter who works for the Bangor Daily News, wants to do a story prior to the trip, and upon their return.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORTS.**

- A. Finance Committee. Did not meet.
- B. Buildings and Grounds Committee. Minutes are in the Board packets.
- C. Policy Committee. Did not meet.
- D. Curriculum Steering Committee. Minutes are in the Board packets.

8. **OLD BUSINESS.**

- A. Board discussion on special education:

- 1. Disabilities – Veronica
 - 2. New Developments – James, Veronica
- This item was tabled.

- B. Second readings of the following policies:

- 1. A motion was made by Mike Hamilton and seconded by Bonnie-Jean Brooks to approve JJIB, Sponsorship and Evaluation of Athletic/Co-Curricular Programs, for its second reading.

VOTE: 8-0-0

- 2. A motion was made by Tom Calderwood and seconded by Mike Hamilton to approve JJIC, Interscholastic Athletic/Co-Curricular Activities Eligibility, for its second reading.

VOTE: 8-0-0

9. **NEW BUSINESS.**

- A. Consideration of approval of the 2005-06 district audit. Postponed.
- B. A motion was made by Bonnie-Jean Brooks and seconded by Mike Hamilton to approve a trip to Camp Kieve by the 8th grade on May 31 – June 1, 2007. The superintendent was able to offer \$3,355 towards the trip from a grant. However, a pre/post survey must be administered and a student serve on the follow-up committee on the trip.

VOTE: 8-0-0

- C. A motion was made by Bonnie-Jean Brooks and seconded by Nedra Bellows to approve a field trip to the Norlands Living History Center on April 2, 2007 by grades 2-5 at the Stockton Springs Elementary School. Questions followed.

VOTE: 8-0-0

- D. A motion was made by Nedra Bellows and seconded by Bonnie-Jean Brooks to approve a field trip to Boston by the Humanities Class on April 27-28, 2007.

VOTE: 8-0-0

- E. A motion was made by Bonnie-Jean Brooks and seconded by Twyler Webster to approve a field trip to Brooklyn NY on May 10 - 13, 2007 by high school students with the Sister School Exchange.

VOTE: 8-0-0

- F. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Bonnie-Jean Brooks to approve a trip to Six Flags of New England on June 10-11, 2007 by the Senior Class of 2007. Questions and discussion followed.

VOTE: 8-0-0

- G. Consideration of a request from Ruth Fitzpatrick to take two students to England. Students need to show leadership skills and sports skills, and come back to the community to design a festival involving young children. In addition, we have been asked to become a site known as Dreams and Teams with an exchange of teachers and students. This year we are beginning with two students who have to do 30 hours of community service upon their return. Dennis Pike and Julia Parks have been selected for this year's trip. A motion was made by Bonnie-Jean Brooks and seconded by Veronica Magnan to approve the trip to England on March 31, 2007 for four days by two students.

VOTE: 8-0-0

- H. A motion was made by Nedra Bellows and seconded by Tom Calderwood to approve a field trip to Portland on March 10, 2007 by members of the Sister School Project, and possibly an overnight stay. They will be interviewed about their work with Drummond, Woodsum.

VOTE: 8-0-0

- I. Consideration of approval for possible asbestos abatement. The superintendent shared that we need to remove the asbestos at the Stockton Springs Elementary School during the roof project. Mr. Parsons worked with Icon to go out to bid. Companies were pre-approved. A motion was made by Bonnie-Jean Brooks and seconded by Mike Hamilton to accept the bid from New Meadows Abatement in the amount of \$20,500.

VOTE: 8-0-0

- J. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Tom Calderwood to approve the K-12 Social Studies Curriculum, the textbook A Journey Through Maine, and the grade 12 requirement of a social studies class starting with the class of 2010.

VOTE: 8-0-0

K. Board discussion on Education:

1. Revisions in the Maine Learning Results – Chris, Veronica
2. Understanding the US Patriot Act – James, Veronica
3. Does Technology Make a Difference? – Chris, James

This item was tabled. James Cunningham asked about an earlier request for two students to serve on the Board of Directors. The superintendent stated that the Policy Committee meeting had been cancelled for today, but that this item was on the agenda, and will be done. Other policies sent back to the committee had to be revised first and are also on that agenda.

Jim Cunningham also wanted to have a senior satisfaction survey – what they liked? What they didn't like? Any changes they would make? Gregg Palmer said that has been done for the past two years and he has that information for the Board.

10. **EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

- A. A motion was made by Bonnie-Jean Brooks and seconded by Mike Hamilton to enter executive session for the evaluations of official and an employee pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) A).

VOTE: 8-0-0

The Board entered executive session at 7:56 pm and resumed public session at 8:02 pm.

- B. A motion was made by Twyler Webster and seconded by Mike Hamilton to enter executive session for the resignation of officials/appointees/employees pursuant to 1 MRSA § 405 (6) (A).

VOTE: 8-0-0

The Board entered executive session at 8:02 pm and resumed public session at 8:15 pm.

11. **ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,